

IRAQI DESTINY

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Mosul courts to be reborn

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Mosul open for business, 101st helps create financial opportunities

MOSUL, Iraq -- The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) brought together state and private institutions in a \$14 million deal to renovate the Nineveh Hotel Wednesday, in an effort to boost Mosul tourism and the economy.

In the first postwar effort toward privatizing Iraqi government facilities, division legal representative Maj. David Ward introduced the Sumer Holdings Group to the Mosul Board of Tourism who jointly worked out an operating agreement to share profits generated by the hotel.

Sumer will not only be the first company to pump private capital into state property, but it will also operate the only five-

star hotel in the city.

"The agreement will grow the economy and stimulate city life," said Dr. Sadallah Farjo, Sumer's chief executive. "Mosul is a major site for tourism, and this is the best hotel in the city."

Under the agreement, Sumer would split revenue with the Tourism board, once expenses and payments on initial investment are subtracted.

The government in Mosul has been ahead of the rest of Iraq in everything since the end of the war, said Maj. Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander, 101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.) who helped facilitate the agreement. It was the first to hold elections, the first to form inter-ethnic security forces, and now it is the first to

work with private enterprise to rebuild Iraq and restore its economy.

"The Nineveh Hotel will be a symbol -- a model for the rest of the country," said Ambassador

Pietro Cordone, the Coalition Provisional Authority's senior advisor to the Ministry of Culture.

Contributed by
101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.) PAO



Sgt. Robert Woodward

Representatives of the Mosul Board of Tourism, the Investment Committee of the Nineveh Governorate Council, and the Sumer Holdings Group, sign the \$14 million contract to jointly renovate and operate the Nineveh Hotel.

Commentary

Iraqi people owe debt to Americans, if only the Iraqis cooperate

by Salim Daoud Karomy
CMOC Linguist

We are quite happy to declare that the coalition force, especially the Americans, have debts on the necks of all Iraqi people with their sects, origins and religions. The Americans, the liberators are and always will be welcome here in this country. The Iraqi people will never be able to pay this debt simply because it is invaluable.

It is said that freedom and blood are twins. The Americans have sacrificed

themselves to water the tree of freedom, which will grow up and flourish to cover the rest of the world which still suffers cruelty and dictatorship.

The American administration had taken the right decision to remove Saddam's regime. Otherwise, the Western civilization, especially that of America, would have been in real danger. The prophets saved the humanity by thousands years before. President (George W.) Bush, together with Mr. Tony Blair, has saved the Iraqi people at present.

Now, there is a big question here. How will the Americans be successful in Iraq?

To answer this question, we say that they need three pillars. They are firmness, justice and truthful advisors. It is very easy for the Iraqi people to be trouble makers, but at the same time it is easier to stop them from being so. This is the experience that I've got through dealing with different types of the Iraqi people. My son asked an American major if he feels happy here in Iraq. The major answered that he could be happy only if the Iraqi people cooperate with us. We will do our best to cooperate with the coalition force in return for a bit of the debt that is on our necks.

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On the cover: Capt. Jerry Teresinski of Philadelphia, Penn., an attorney with the Mosul Office of Judicial Operations, meets with a local attorney outside the East Mosul Courthouse. The Mosul Office of Judicial Operations and the Coalition Provisional Authority are working to renovate the local courts structurally and systematically. Photo by Pfc. Thomas Day.

MOJO and CPA helping to rebuild and restore local courts

by Pfc. Thomas Day
40th PAD

The local courts are undergoing a renovation, both in a physical and systematic sense, thanks to the Coalition Provisional Authority and the Mosul Office of Judicial Operations.

"This system has functioned in a way that is hard for us to grasp," said Michael Mullaney, regional representative for the Ministry of Justice under the CPA. "This was entirely a judge-based system until now."

After a generation of a negligent and unjust criminal and civil justice system, coalition authorities are now nearly working from scratch.

One of the first changes enacted under the Coalition Provisional Authority after the fall of Saddam was to institute new rights to the accused, according to Mullaney.

An Iraqi equivalent to the Miranda Rights, which provide citizens accused of a crime the right to an attorney among other privileges in America, simply did not exist under the former regime.

The MOJO office now is tasked with administering the laws being passed by the CPA.

Additionally, the two court houses in Mosul are undergoing renovations after looting in the aftermath of the fall of the old regime. The Court of Investigations, which handles preliminary hearings before deciding to send a case forward, is operating in a wing of the South Mosul Courthouse that nearly burned to the ground in March.

"It's still a work in progress"

The Court Appointed Attorney Program, established for defendants who earn a salary of less than 10,000 dinar per month (less than \$60) and could not afford an attorney, was established in early July when it conducted the first hearing with a CAAP attorney.

"The Court Appointed Attorney Program brings to life the laws that CPA passed," said Capt. Jerry Teresinski of

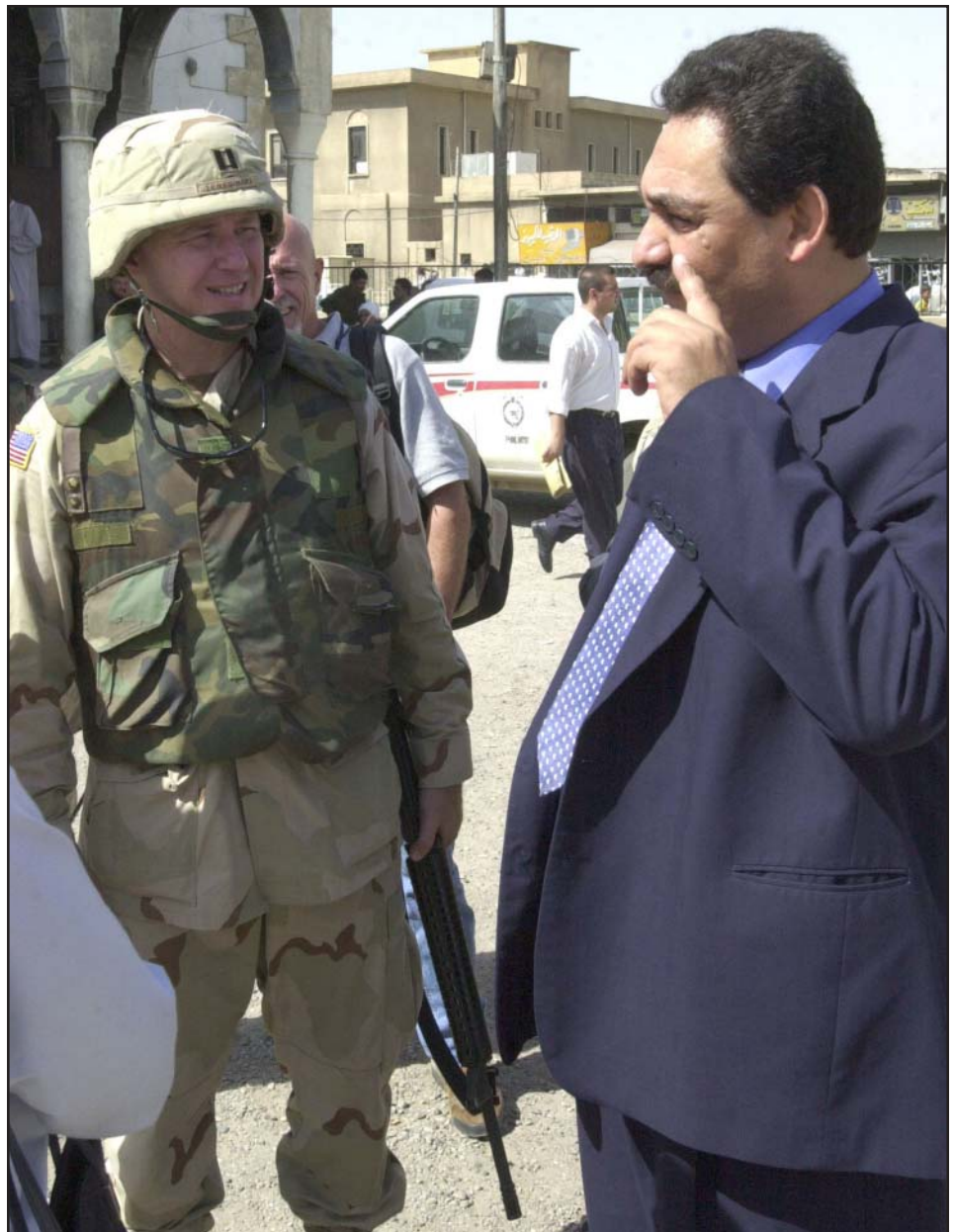
Philadelphia, Penn., an attorney with MOJO.

"We're still going through the training," said Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Strakal of Philipsburg, Mont., a paralegal with the MOJO team. "It's still a work in progress."

Over 200 attorneys have volunteered to work under the CAAP without pay. The CPA and Mosul judicial office are working to pay the attorneys for their service.

The judicial operations office, which operates out of the Civilian Military Operations Center in Mosul, has also established an 11-member council to oversee the Ninevah province bar association. "What their job is supposed to be," according to Strakal, "is to look forward to the future of the legal process in the

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Pfc. Thomas Day

Capt. Jerry Teresinski of Philadelphia, Penn., an attorney with the Mosul Office of Judicial Operations, meets with a Court of Investigations judge outside the East Mosul Courthouse.

Adult literacy class gives second chance for people; Program aimed toward giving job qualifications

by Spc. Joshua M. Risner
40th PAD

Soldiers with 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) are assisting locals in a program geared toward helping adults, to give them an education for a better life in the newly freed Iraq.

The program aims to teach uneducated people how to read, write and perform basic math according to Chap. (Capt.) B. Vaughn Bridges, 1st Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

"We're hoping this program will help people get jobs and be able to keep them," Bridges added.

The idea came from an interpreter who saw the problem and suggested a solution

to correct it. The Rakkasans took the idea and ran with it, setting up classes at local schools and arranging teachers to instruct the people.

The teachers were skeptical at first, not willing believe that people would respond to the idea, according to Bridges.

"When the program was announced, the people came," he said. "It made us realize that there are people out there who want to learn and are hungry for knowledge."

The program is geared toward adults,

but teenagers and children are also allowed to attend. "The program is for anyone who doesn't have an education and wants to earn one," Bridges said.

The classes are five nights a week and will last three months for people who have some education and six months for those

"We're hoping this program will help people get jobs and be able to keep them." Chap. (Capt.) B. Vaughn Bridges, 1st Bn., 187th Inf. Rgt.

without.

The teachers are paid an extra wage for teaching the night classes.

"I think that if the people stick with it then this will be a success," Bridges said.



Spc. Joshua M. Risner

A teacher instructs students on literacy skills. An adult literacy program has sprung up in the 3rd Brigade area of operations to help to teach adults to read and write so they can get and keep a job.

Alabama Senator pays visit to 101st

by Pfc. Thomas Day
40th PAD

Sen. Jeff Sessions, senator from Alabama and member of the Senate Armed Services committee, met with Maj. Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) Monday before touring the work the division has done in Mosul.

Petraeus briefed the senator on the projects his division has completed and work in Northern Iraq that is still ongoing, before they jumped on a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter for a bird's eye view of Iraq's second largest city.

"We don't get too many visitors up here," Petraeus joked about the Screaming Eagles current location. "We're pretty far north."

Sessions, wearing an Alabama National Guard hat, was happy to make the trip half-way across the globe to visit the troops. "Just on behalf of your government in Washington, I want to say, 'thank you'," Sessions told a small audience of 101st soldiers after the briefing. "Your reputation is well earned in Washington."

CG to senator: More money, please!

Petraeus repeatedly stressed the importance of "major projects" that his division is overseeing, and the need for money to complete these missions.

"Money is ammunition in this war right now," he said. "We didn't have any for a long time." Petraeus explained in detail major projects in refurbishing and improving schools, training border guards and reestablishing fuel and water supplies.

"I think (Maj. Gen. Petraeus') insights are very

valuable," he said. "The 101st has done a tremendous job; you are ahead of the curve."

Sessions: UN unnecessary

With many democrats and several republicans on Capital Hill calling for President Bush to go before the United Nations seeking a resolution to support the rebuilding effort in Iraq, the junior Alabama senator scoffed at such speculation.

"They're good people and they want

to do the right thing, but I've got a lot of confidence in our leadership," he said.

The 101st is scheduled to be replaced in Northern Iraq by an international peace-keeping force in February and some, including Sessions' Armed Services committee colleague Sen. Jack Reed (D-R.I.), have speculated that such a force may not be ready by that time.

Sessions doubted that a UN mandate would be needed to ensure such a force.

Sessions also underscored the current support the coalition enjoys. "We've got thirty-seven countries supporting this



Spc. Kieran Moore

United States Senator Jeff Sessions visits the 101st Airborne Division with Maj. Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at the division's main compound before taking a tour of Mosul.

operation."

Rays of hope shine for displaced people

"Rakassans" ferry displaced Kurds across Tigris River

by Pfc. Thomas Day
40th PAD

In a continuing effort to overturn over two decades of "Arabization" under Saddam Hussein, soldiers from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) have established a ferry that will carry Kurdish citizens back to their homelands where they had been expelled from a generation ago.

The ferry is now operational and Capt. Dan Kidd of Clarksville, Tenn., commander, Co. B, expects more than 40,000 Kurdish locals to use the service to cross the Tigris River.

"The people in this area during Arabization in the 70's were pushed back either into Kurdistan or exiled," Kidd said. "Everyone over 30 years old remembers it."

"Pretty much all the Kurds that lived in the area were cut off from their families on the other side," he added. "Now that they have their freedom back, their coming to reclaim their family lands."

A bridge that was planned on being built was cancelled by the Ba'ath party and Saddam before the launch of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The coalition project, according to Kidd, will cost around \$25,000.

The project highlights another effort by the 101st Airborne to join Kurds and Arabs together after decades of strife between the two factions in Northern Iraq.

The 101st soldiers have also been active in establishing a Joint Iraqi Security Force comprised of former Iraqi soldiers.

Maj. Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and Col. Michael Linnington,

commander, 3rd Brigade paid a visit to Kidd's company Saturday.

Petraeus thanked the

soldiers, many of whom served in Afghanistan supporting Operation Enduring Freedom, for their efforts.



Pfc. Thomas Day

Maj. Gen. David H. Petraeus, commander, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) shakes an Iraqi youth's hand at the site of a new ferry route along the Tigris River near the Iraqi-Syrian border. The ferry will connect tens of thousands of Kurds, displaced from their homes during "Arabization," to their former lands.

Well provides water source for four communities

by Spc. Joshua M. Risner
40th PAD

Villages north of Sinjar mountain will now have plenty of drinking water to sustain themselves.

Soldiers of 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) assisted the local population in digging a well and constructing a water truck filling station for outside the town of Sunnuni.

The work was completed by local contractors according to 1st Lt. Michael Jackson, executive officer, Company C, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment. "It took about two weeks for the whole project to be completed," he said.

Brig. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, assistant division commander (operations), 101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.) was present for the opening ceremony and had much to say about the effort and to the people.

"I was here about three weeks ago for a police graduation in Sunnuni and a sheik asked me about the water situation," Helmick said. "He told me that they needed only two things to live: air and water."

The Rakkasans of 3rd Brigade sprung into action, making the plans and executing the plans they made.

The well provides water for four different communities: Sunnuni, Chansur, Dohola and Yarmuk. The area is populated mostly by the Yazidi people, an ethnic minority persecuted by the old regime.

They did live in the mountains years ago where water was more accessible, but Saddam moved them out to better control them, according to Jackson. He moved them into cities and made them dependent on him for water and electricity to garner their support for him, he added.

The new well will provide water for around 125,000 people, Jackson said.



photos by Spc. Joshua M. Risner

(Above) An Iraqi gives himself a quick shower before the first water truck is filled at the new well and filling station. (Below) Brig. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, assistant division commander (operations), 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), cuts the ribbon in an opening ceremony for a well near the town of Sunnuni. The well will supply water for four different communities.



Busting the bad guys...

2nd Brigade soldiers lay down the law in black market

by Spc. Mary Rose Xenikakis
22nd MPAD

Apprehending black marketers is an everyday task for a team of soldiers in the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

With the shortage of propane and diesel, and mandated government rates, the black marketers are making profit from selling at inflated prices.

"The (Iraqis) are supposed to be paying 250 or 500 dinar, for a bottle of propane, depending on who they are getting it from," said Spc. Justin Hummer, 2nd Brigade, Fire Support Element, 101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.). "A lot of these black marketers are selling propane for 750 to 1,000 dinars,"

The FSE for 2nd Brigade works like Robin Hood and his men. They bust the bad guys, take the bad guys illegal goods and give it to those in need.

Everyday, before going out on patrols throughout the northern area of Iraq, the Fire Support Element meets with the Northern Iraqi Oil Ministry to collect the statistics for the day.

According to Maj. David J. Gunn, fire support officer, FSE, 2nd Bde, 101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.), "The purpose of that meeting is to take what we know is coming out of Turkey in terms of benzene and propane and distribute to stations based on need and consumption rates."

After getting the statistics, they head out to get the black marketers who sit on the street corners or on the side of main roads throughout Northern Iraq.

"The black marketers are affecting the local fuel economy pretty heavily," Gunn said. "The problem is we're not sure where that black marketing is coming from."

Gunn said the Coalition Forces know the only place the black marketers can get the fuel they are selling illegally is from authorized distribution centers or authorized stations in town, whether it is benzene or propane.

The people out there selling propane and benzene, for inflated prices, are taking away from the families, said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stuart Allen, targeting officer, FSE, 2nd Bde, 101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.).

These soldiers have been scouring the streets trying to crack down and confiscate the thieves' supplies.

Each black marketer who is apprehended brings Mosul that much closer to

a healthier future.

"If Americans soldiers aren't there these people aren't staying honest, so we're just trying to keep them honest," Hummer said.



Sgt. Clint Pingleton, 2nd Brigade, Fire Support Element, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) apprehends an Iraqi man for selling fuel illegally.

Spc. Mary Rose Xenikakis

Civil Affairs Food and Agriculture Team focuses efforts on sheep, cattle stock

by Pfc. Thomas Day
40th PAD

With potentially serious public health issues looming, the 431st Civil Affairs Battalion Food and Agriculture team is working to supply vital vaccinations to the massive sheep and cattle stock throughout the Ninevah province.

"There is a large portion of the population of Mosul that has brucellosis, which is a disease transmitted from sheep or cattle to people," Capt. Wade Reaves of Hattiesburg, Miss.

"The idea of getting the brucellosis vaccination in the livestock population is to get it low enough so it won't reach people," Reaves said.

Reaves and the food and agriculture team is currently working with the Veterinary Hospital of Ninevah in Mosul to supply the vaccinations for the local livestock. The hospital, according to Dr. Muhfodh Xahya Sulainan, has over 2.5 million heads of sheep and 100,000 heads of cattle that rely on necessary immunizations.

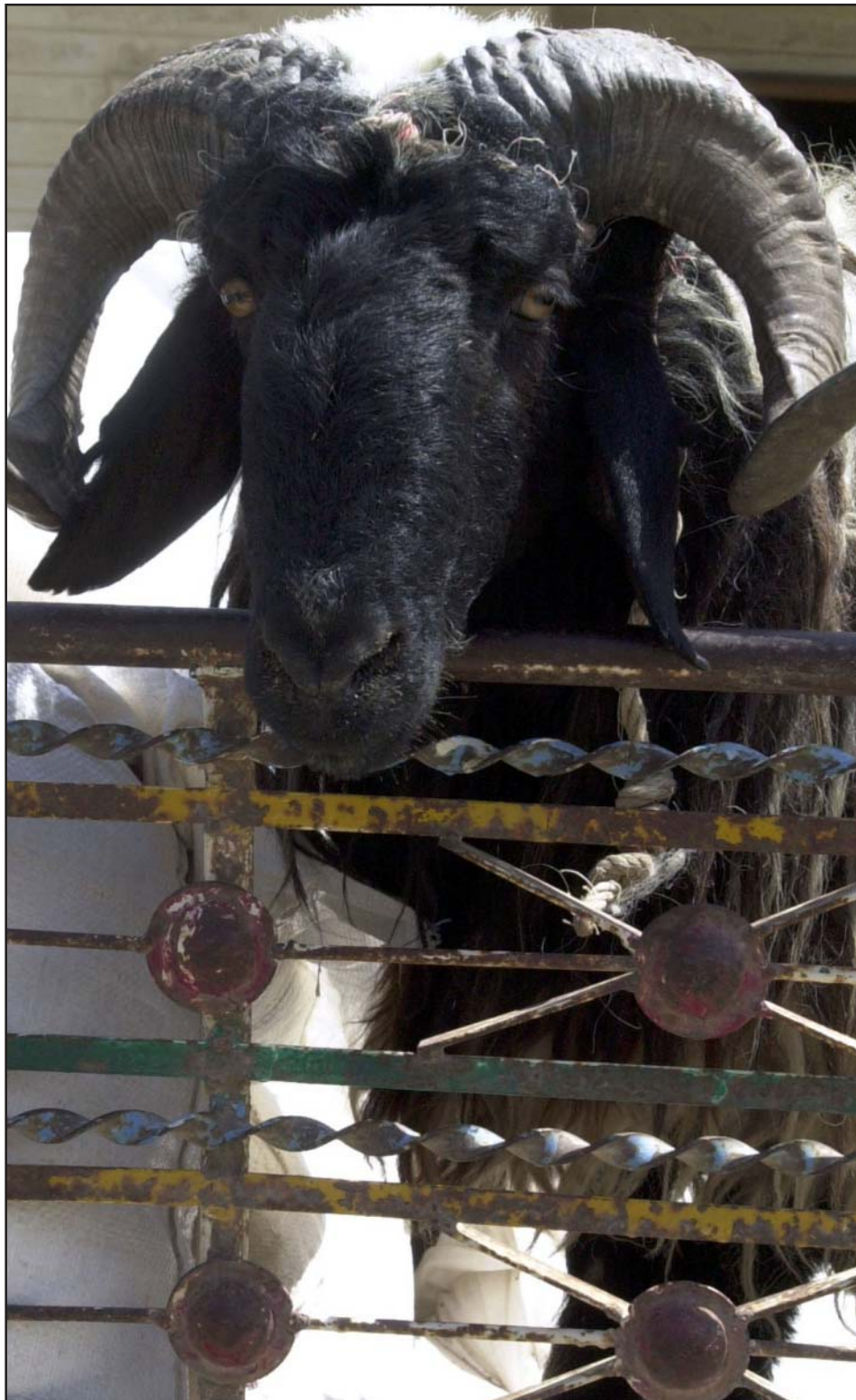
"Until now, we had nothing," he said. "It's very important to supply these vaccinations."

The 431st team met with Sulainan Wednesday at his veterinary hospital to help ensure vaccinations for a number of diseases, focusing primarily on anthrax and rabies vaccinations in addition to the brucellosis immunizations. Economic concerns are also being considered, according to Reaves.

"Any time you vaccinate animals that are producing food, the idea is to keep them healthy and increase production," he said.

The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), currently operating out of Mosul, is interested in supporting the operation financially, according to Reaves. He has identified other sources of financing and is currently working on securing enough money to complete the mission.

"They really need the vaccinations in the next month or so, hopefully we can meet that timetable."



Pfc. Thomas Day

A local goat gets delivered to the Veterinary Hospital of Ninevah in Mosul for vaccinations.

Peshmerga returns stolen vehicles to Mosul

by Sgt. Mark Swart
101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.) PAO

ZEWEETA, Iraq — One by one, they rumbled to life.

Parked for more than three months on a grassy, mountain hillside in Northern Iraq, the random collection of 43 government vehicles stolen from Mosul authorities during the war are being returned to the Ninevah Province.

The vehicles were confiscated by Peshmerga forces at traffic checkpoints outside of Mosul as thieves tried to take them out of the city, according to Sgt. 1st. Class Gilbert Ortiz, the 101st liaison officer to the Peshmerga Forces in Dohuk. Any vehicles without proper paperwork were brought to the Peshmerga Special Forces compound for safekeeping as the Mosul government was reformed and restored, Ortiz said.

The handover is a cooperative effort between Mosul

authorities, the Peshmerga forces and the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

The vehicles included several large buses, flatbed trucks, water tankers, pickup trucks and tractor-trailer rigs. They belong to various government branches, from power to public transportation to the fire department.

Many were riddled with bullet holes and are partially cannibalized, but the majority are still in running order, Ortiz said.

"They might not look like much," Ortiz said, "but they will make a difference."

The head of the Nineveh province Traffic Department, Col. Samir Dawood Muhammad, said that the vehicles were primarily stolen for two reasons: cash resale value and possible use in terrorist acts.

The 101st Abn. Div. (AAslt.) is serving as a conduit between the Kurdish Peshmerga military forces that confiscated the vehicles and the predominantly Arab Mosul civil authorities.

COURTS, from page 3

Ninevah province."

The council includes one woman and oversees a membership of more than 3,000 attorneys.

Files on defendants are now being reworked after many files were destroyed or stolen during the looting. "They had to create a new file for each defendant," according to Teresinski. "The system was set up to lose people. Now we can track how things are going."

Defendants would sometimes sit in prison for six months or more before going to trial under the former system. "The hope is to get it all computerized," Teresinski added.

The complex Iraqi judicial system

"It's a variation of the French system," Mullaney said. At the top of the Iraqi judicial system in the Court of Cessation in Baghdad, the equivalent of the American Supreme Court.

There are 12 appellate court districts for each province.

At the local level, it becomes more complex. Criminal cases, after they are first heard by the Court of Investigations and determined to be just and ready to go trial, are then heard by either the Court of Felonies or the Court of Misdemeanors. Appeals are heard by the Criminal Appeals Court. The courts are presided by a three-judge panel.

The system, which for the past generation had essentially ignored the rights of the accused, is now growing under the new doctrine. Teresinski, a reservist who serves a prosecutor in Philadelphia, tried to placate fears about the new code when he met with the three-judge panel that presides over the appeals court.

"I know what this does is strengthens the defense cases and rights," he said. "What were trying to do now is strengthen the role of the prosecutors as well as the system."



Staff Sgt. Mark Swart

A collection of 43 government vehicles was confiscated from thieves by Peshmerga forces and are being returned to the Mosul authorities.

Scam targets families of deployed soldiers

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) - Army criminal investigators are trying to find scam artists who posed as soldiers and told wives that their husbands were killed in Iraq.

In Colorado Springs, two women in dress uniforms reportedly knocked on the door of an Army wife and wanted to see an ID card, marriage certificate and other documents with information that could be used for financial fraud.

Elsewhere around the country, family members have been called in the middle of the night by imposters who purported to either be with the Army or Red Cross.

The Criminal Investigation Detachment at Fort Carson, Colo., has been investigating the first Colorado Springs incident that occurred in April and other more frequent ones.

"CID is going to work closely with other law-enforcement agencies to find who is responsible," said Marc Raimondi, Criminal Investigation Command spokesman.

"CID takes all allegations of criminal acts against soldiers seriously," Raimondi said. "This is a despicable crime that we are committed to solving."

Officials at the U.S. Army Personnel Command stressed that casualty-notification officers would never ask to see personal documents when notifying next of kin. They warned families to beware of imposters bearing bad news.

"It happens all the time, unfortunately," said PERSCOM's Shari Lawrence. "It happened during Desert Storm and Just Cause in Panama."

During Desert Storm, an elderly couple in Virginia answered their door and found two youths dressed in Army physical training uniforms, Lawrence said. The PT-clad imposters told the couple that their son had been shot and was arriving at the local airport. After the couple drove off toward the airport, their home was burglarized.

"The families are under enough stress," Lawrence said. "There just aren't any adjectives to describe how difficult that (the notification hoax) is for families."

Families who receive suspicious calls should immediately check with their soldier's unit, said Maj. Joe Golden, commander of the rear detachment of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, at Fort Carson. Golden said his unit has a staff duty officer available all

night who could quickly check the veracity of a casualty report and put family members at ease.

The Red Cross does not notify the next of kin when military members are wounded or killed in action, Richter said.

When a soldier is wounded in a military operation, the next of kin is normally notified over the telephone by a doctor or medical specialist, said Deryline Watts, a casualty officer at Fort Carson.

"Usually it will be the doctor or someone taking care of the soldier who understands the situation and can explain it who makes the call," Watts said. "If (the soldiers are) well enough, they can make the call themselves."

When a soldier is killed, normally the notification is made in person by one or more soldiers in Class A uniforms, with a chaplain if one is available, Watts said. If families have any doubts if the notification is real, Watts suggested asking the notification team for identification.

A separate person, a casualty assistance officer, makes funeral arrangements

and helps set up benefits and assists with applying for unpaid pay and hiring attorneys. The casualty-assistance officer may ask for information to speed the benefit application process, including dates of birth, addresses of other relatives and social security numbers of children.

But that comes later and documents are never requested at the time of notification, Lawrence said.

Anyone approached by a suspicious person claiming to have information about their deployed spouse should call the military police or local law-enforcement agency immediately, Watts said.

Those who receive suspicious phone calls can also try to trace the call, Richter said. She explained that many phone companies have resources that might be able to find out where the call originated.

(Editor's note: Spc. Matt Millham, of the 14th Public Affairs Detachment at Fort Carson, contributed to this article along with Spc. Jonathan M. Stack, associate editor of the Frontline newspaper at Fort Stewart, Ga.)

Let the patients roll in...



Spc. Joshua M. Risner

Interim mayor Ghanim Al-Basso cuts a ribbon, reopening the infectious disease hospital in Mosul, Aug. 2. Much of the funding required to get the hospital operational again was provided by Peace Winds, a nonprofit organization from Japan.

Man on the Street

How do you think educating local adults will help the rebuilding mission?



"It will give the people here an opportunity to take in the information that we're trying to put out to them."

- Spc. Michael Jewell of Uxbridge, Mass., 311th Military Intelligence Battalion



"In their businesses. I don't think they know how to run businesses here."

- Master Sgt. Patricia Raikes of Kingston, Tenn., Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 502nd Infantry Regiment

"It will make them smarter, so they won't get in our way."

- Pfc. Daniel Cook of Castor Valley, Cal., 2nd Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment



"It will help them find better jobs so people won't be suppressed."

- Sgt. Angela Chilton of Dayton, Ohio, 2nd Bn., 44th Air Defense Artillery Regiment



"That's what we need. This is the real mission."

- Natalia Eliya, CMOC linguist



"Education is a tool of self improvement; if it's used wisely, it can make for a better society."

- Chap. (Capt.) John Stutz, chaplain, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)